

How to Drive a Horse.

Young man, I see you are about to take a drive, this morning, and will offer you some advice. Your horse is restive and wants to be off before you are ready; you may as well break him of this now as at any other time, and hereafter you will find it has been a half hour well spent.

Just give me the reins while you put your foot on the step, as if to get in; the horse makes a move to go; I tighten the reins and say "whoa." Now put your foot on the step again; the horse makes another move; I hold the reins and speak to him again. The horse is getting excited. Pat him lightly on the neck and talk to him soothingly. Put your foot on the step again and repeat the process until the horse will stand still for you to get in, and adjust yourself in the seat and tell him to go. A few such lessons will train him so that he will always wait for your order before starting.

Now as your horse has just been fed, drive him at a very gentle pace for the first two or three miles, until he warms up and his body becomes lighter. But, before you start, let me show you how to hold the reins.

Take them in your left hand, have them of equal length from the bit, and to cross each other in your hand, the off side one resting on your first finger, the other on the fourth finger, the back of the hand upward. Now in guiding the horse, you have only to use the wrist joint, which will direct him either right or left, as you wish. Keep your hand steady with a gentle pressure on the bit—no jerking or switching on the reins.

If more speed is wanted, take the whip in your right hand, to be gently used for that purpose, be careful not to apply it any harder than is necessary to bring him up to the required speed. Speak to him soothingly, and intimate in the most gentlemanly manner what you want him to do, and he will try to do it. So noble an animal should not be handled roughly, nor over-driven, when you return, have the harness removed at once, and the horse rubbed down with a wisp of straw or hay, and let him cool off before being watered or fed. Every one who handles a horse, or has anything to do with one, should, in the first place, cultivate his acquaintance; let him know that you are his friend, and prove it to him by your kind treatment; he needs this to inspire confidence, and when that is gained, he is your humble servant. If your horse gets frightened at any unusual sight or noise, do not whip him, for if you do, he will connect the whipping with the object that alarmed him, and be afraid of it ever after. If he merely shies at an object, give him time to examine it, which, with some encouraging words from the driver, will persuade him to pass it. You get frightened, too, sometimes, and would not like to get whipped for it.—*Stock Journal.*

River Whirlpools.

Among the many phenomena of the Colorado river are "whirls," so called. They occur everywhere, but only at high stages of water. A bubble rises from the bottom and breaks with a slight sound on the surface. The water at the point begins a rotary motion, so small that an inverted teacup might cover it. Larger and larger grows the circle, till a surface of forty feet in diameter is in motion, spinning round a funnel-shaped hole in the centre two or three feet across at the top, and coming to a point in the depths below. Often a large tree floating down the stream is caught and its foremast thrust up in the air twenty or thirty feet, while the other passes slowly madam, the ground and it to be slowly drawn down again and to disappear. Three soldiers, deserters from Camp Mohave, passing in a skiff through the ravine immediately below the fork, suffered their craft to run into a whirl. One of the crew at the first intimation of danger, threw himself overboard beyond the charmed circle, and as he swam away, he turned his head and saw the boat spin round and round, until one end being drawn into the vortex and the other upheaved in the air, it slowly sank as it revolved into the turbid bosom of the river, its human freight to be seen no more, for the Colorado river does not give up the dead—no corpses lodge on its shores.

Cameos.

Rome is now the chief seat of the art of cameo cutting, two of which are produced—those cut in hard stone and those cut in shells. The stones most valuable for this purpose are the oriental onyx and the sardonyx provided they have at least two different colors in parallel layers. The value of the stones is greatly increased for this purpose if they have four or five different colors in parallel layers. If the layers are so thin as to assist in making the device of the cameo. For example, a specimen of stone, which has four parallel layers, may be useful for a cameo of Minerva, where the ground would be a dark gray, the face light, the bust and helmet black, and the crest over the helmet brown or gray. All such cameos are wrought by a lapidary's lathe, with pointed instruments of steel, and by means of diamond dust. Shell cameos are cut from large shells found on the African and Brazilian coasts, and generally show two layers, one white and the other a pale coffee color or deep red orange. The subject is cut with small steel chisels out of the white portion of the shell. Stones adapted for cameo-cutting are dense, thick, and consist usually three layers of different-colored shell material.

The California hop vine has the singular habit of only growing in winter. The colder the weather is the better it thrives; and on clear, frosty nights it sometimes grows an inch in five hours. It bears beautiful snow-white flowers, sometimes like tuberoses, only much more fragile and fragrant. Ladies wear them with diamonds at evening parties. They wither in daylight, and open only at night. When the mercury is lowest, and the stars are almost reflected on the crisp shining snow, then this delicate flower opens its petals and fills the frosty air with its perfume.

Stretch it a Little.

A little girl and her brother were on their way to their school one winter morning. The grass on the common was white with frost, and the wind was very damp. They were both poorly dressed, but the little girl had a kind of a cloak over her which she seemed to have outgrown.

As they walked briskly along she drew the boy closer to her, and said, "Come under my coat, Johnny."

"It isn't big enough for both, sister."

"Then I will try and stretch it a little."

And they were soon as close together and warm as birds in the same nest.

Now, why can't we all stretch our comforts a little? There are many shivering bodies, and sad hearts, and weeping eyes in the world just because people do not stretch their comforts beyond themselves.

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June 1, 1873. T. C. DODD, Treas'r.

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A long experience in our business enables us to offer peculiar advantages to our patrons, both as to thoroughness of work and quality of stock. These we guarantee, and depend upon more for our patronage than we do upon the cheapness of our work.

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